

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please insert the following heading above line 1 on page 1.

**--TECHNICAL FIELD--**

Please insert the following heading between lines 3 and 4 on page 1.

**--BACKGROUND--**

Please insert the following heading after line 13 on page 2 after the sentence ending in “applications” and before the beginning of the next sentence that starts with “The”.

**--SUMMARY--**

Please insert the following heading between lines 2 and 3 on page 3.

**--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--**

Please insert the following heading between lines 13 and 14 on page 3.

**--DETAILED DESCRIPTION--**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 23 on page 3 with the following amended paragraph:

--The core of the joint is therefore composed of alternate layers of strips 8 and blocks 9 in a vertical plane extending from one of the flanges 4 to the other 5. The blocks 9 create a staggered network, being laid out in vertical rows in which they occupy every other space between the strips 8. If we scan the joint in a normal plane with the axis of symmetry of the entire joint, horizontal and ~~vertical~~ parallel to the flanges 4 and 5 between two strips 8, we similarly discover a block 9 every second vertical row that is crossed.--